

KEN Introduction Meeting

Monday, June 19, 2006

Education Cabinet, Capital Plaza Tower, State Board Room, 1st floor

MINUTES:

In Attendance:

Meeting Facilitator- Stacy Bassett

Executive Committee- Sec. Virginia Fox, Commissioner Gene Wilhoit, Jim Applegate, Dr. Phil Rogers

(Jim Applegate served on the Executive Committee in the absence of Dr. Tom Layzell, CPE. Sec. J. Farris -Finance, was not present.)

IT Coordination Committee- Allen Lind, David Couch, Ann Riggs, Brian Mefford, Tom Ferree

(Scott Smith was not present)

Guests- Miko Pattie, Robin Kinney, Ann Guarnieri, Robin Morley, Brenda Allen, Sally Hamilton, Zach Webb, Stuart Hamling, Ruth Webb, Kyna Koch, Faurest Coogle, Myk Garn, Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Tom Willis, Bo Lowrey, Kathy Quinn, Bill Wilson, Mike Clark, Stephanie Williams, Dan Abner, Lauren McElroy, Doyle Friskney, Stan Lampe, Glenna Mays, Skip Hunt, Hiren Desai, Laura Owens, Jeff Mosley, Phyllis Liebman, Audrey Carr, Greg Rush, Mark Rutledge, John Hicks

Stacey Bassett, from the Governor's Office, was the facilitator for the meeting. She began by introducing Sec. Virginia Fox for opening remarks.

Sec. Fox welcomed everyone and stated we've been waiting a long time for this very important meeting. As a result of our joint budget request, House Bill 380 includes funds for the Kentucky Education Network (KEN), a high-speed P-16 education telecommunications network that supports a set of seamless management, instructional, and research applications. Our task is to develop a seamless network to support lifelong learning. A collaboration of the agencies, secondary, post-secondary, and workforce; will join together in sharing information and resources. She emphasized that our goal here is lifelong learning.

Allen Lind – Project Vision

Al took us through a PowerPoint presentation that showed ...

- *Current Model* of resource capabilities
- *Unified Model* with Joint Budget Request as the core of the project,
- *Future Model* with collaborative Initiatives of Council on Post Secondary Education, Ky Dept. of Education, and Education Professional Standards Board
- *Outcomes* with the success measured by greater public accountability, increased student achievement and college and workplace readiness, greater resources available to teachers/leaders, and universal access for schools and universities for continuous improvement data and tools and significantly improved seamless P-16.

Robin Morley – Scenario Building

Robin referred to the short story in the handout titled "Raising Mary". Mary is a sophomore in high school that is using the Kentucky Education Network. She logs on to www.ken.ky.gov and types in her ID and Password and up pops her portal where all her learning records are kept. She has quick access to all her past and present grades and classes, access to online AP classes and online tutoring that is needed for any of her weak areas, which had been previously identified by Gear Up Assessments. When Mary is thinking of college, she can sign on to her portal to see if her transcripts have been sent, check on her admittance, and check out the course catalog and register for classes, and even check on her financial aid requests. All through Mary's college career, she can use this tool for research, tutoring, etc. She is grateful for the convenient and easy-to-use one-stop portal that follows her throughout her learning path and all the support services that were available to her via the portal.

Question: Sec. Fox asks if KEN will follow Mary through her job as a teacher.

Robin responded yes, as the story concludes with Mary as a high school teacher and still using her portal. By logging into Resources for Teachers, she has access to learning objects, virtual field trips and video conferencing for her classroom. She is able to find the resources to help with teaching and classroom challenges.

Robin Morley & Allen Lind – Constituent Outreach & Marketing

Al Lind adds that this project is not about technology, it's about instruction and learning for K-12 thru Post Secondary and we need to provide this to Kentucky students.

Commissioner Wilhoit comments that this will change the definition of education. That currently, a student such as Mary only has access to what is offered within the walls of her school. KEN will be a tool for every student to reach their full potential.

Discussions continue regarding the importance of outreach and marketing this project. David compares this project to the ConnectKY project when PC's were refurbished and given to 8th grade classes. Things like that leave lasting impressions on people. He suggested big announcements be put out to state, legislators and school districts. Al agreed that we should spread information as we go. Comm. Wilhoit also emphasized that the best outreach is to produce something.

There was discussion on the importance of an Advisory Group. An Advisory Group can make planning and implementation much easier. Jim Applegate commented that we need to include our educational community and beyond to be sure we address all business needs.

Jim Applegate ask that we consider other investment opportunities such as Carnegie and other award programs.

Allen Lind & David Couch - Deliverables

Al Lind stated that the dollars were earmarked for the network but we would all need to make a joint effort to move forward now in the development process.

Question: Jim Applegate asks if there will be enough dollars to begin experiments or pilot what can be accomplished.

All agreed that human cooperation, joint effort from the agencies searching for resources to keep this initiative moving will be necessary. Comm. Wilhoit asked that no action be taken without consultation with others on committees. He also expressed the need for this to hit the entire state, that the opportunities must be the same for every county in the state.

Ann Riggs informed the group that the KEN.KY.GOV website is under construction and she will send notice to everyone as soon as it is up and running. This website will keep you informed of the project and its developmental status. Miko Pattie stated that the <http://I2.ky.gov> is now up and running and the recent pilot demo at Frankfort High School was very successful.

Question: Sec. Fox asks if there is any chance of creating an Applications Committee.

Al Lind stated that yes there would be an applications committee created.

Ann Guarnieri & Robin Kinney – Statutory/legislative/fiscal matters

Ann Guarnieri commented that it was a blessing that we were recognized to receive the money for this project but could also be a curse in that we would be scrutinized for the results and expenses of the project. She encouraged everyone to stay involved and offered her services when needed for maximizing these funds.

Robin Kinney commented that the funds appropriated came over the next two years and everyone needed to work together on the resources to continue this project.

Question: The Executive Committee was asked how they would prefer to receive their reports .

Comm. Wilhoit and Sec. Fox agreed that they would like frequent updates, in writing, on the developments of the project. These reports should state major bench marks that have been met, and problems, timeline of reporting dates to legislature, and a conference prior to legislature. Also, any problems that arise may be cause for a quick meeting.

Robin Kinney & Allen Lind – Sustainability

Robin stated that this is the foundation of the KEN initiative. We need to continue looking for other resources, setting expectations for success.

Al Lind commented that we have a base to build on and existing funds to work with, so we need to be in-touch with each other to ensure that all projects mesh.

Question: Phil Rogers asked if there were any plans for conversations with legal staff to make sure we didn't violate any FERPA laws in the projects' information sharing.

All agreed that this was an issue to be looked into and kept on the table for discussion.

Comm. Wilhoit requested feedback on what resources will be needed. He also mentioned to keep in mind the need for a student identifier.

Al Lind commented that an organization chart will be defined with roles and responsibilities addressed.

David Couch & Allen Lind - Operations

Al Lind asked for the Executive Committee's authorization for David Couch, Ann Riggs, Scott Smith, Brian Mefford, Tom Ferree, and himself to continue as primary IT Coordinators Committee. They would be responsible for submitting reports and recruiting sub-group personnel.

The Executive Committee agreed.

Sec. Fox requested that the critical path be defined. Comm. Wilhoit stated his expectations would be to have a general development plan, major benchmarks be defined and addressed, risks and other issues that would need to be mitigated and a graphic timeline be included with the reports.

It was suggested that school districts be included in the sub-groups in order for all sectors to be represented. David Couch will select for K-12 and Al Lind will select for Post Secondary. Ann Riggs commented that project managers would be identified from each agency, as their point of contact, and they would act as a "steering committee".

Al Lind asked the Executive Committee to give the authority to move forward with the project.

Response:

Sec. Fox – Yes

Jim Applegate – Yes

Comm. Wilhoit – Yes

Dr. Rogers - Yes

Open Discussion

Mark Rutledge (COT), remarked that this is a very exciting project with a lot of opportunity but cautioned that applications are business drivers and don't get ahead of business drivers.

Tim Sizemore (KDE), remarked that project managers can make sure we stay on course and don't get ahead.

Comm. Wilhoit (KDE), asked the IT Committee to put something in place that you can deliver on.

Sec. Fox (Education Cab.), asked the committee to engage the Policy Boards and legislators will be interested.

Skip Hunt (KDLA), stated that building and buying is the easy part, but is there a structure for collaboration? What will ensure that it happens?

Sec. Fox (Education Cab.), stated that it is only the will of the Executive Branch and Leadership teams, and that it can only be as good as the people will make it, and the legislators are recognizing the importance.

Bobbie Beth Scoggins (KCDHH), remarked that we've been waiting 15 years for this! She wanted to remind the committee to please make sure that whatever criteria, design, or protocol is established, that we have enough bandwidth to include the disabled. They rely on video capabilities and you have to have a huge pipeline for video. It's very important, for example: the blind need audio capabilities, the hard of hearing may need captioning. She hopes that we will be able to do everything possible to accommodate everyone's needs.